

Application No. 09/681,596
Amendment and Response After Final dated May 19, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2005

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated March 21, 2005, as entered in the above-captioned matter, the Applicant respectfully submits this amendment and response. Claims 30 and 32-36 are pending in the application after entry of this amendment and response.

Claim 30 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,693,226 to Choma (hereinafter "Choma") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,014,654 to Ishibashi (hereinafter "Ishibashi") and U.S. Patent No. 5,642,698 to Diehl et al. (hereinafter "Diehl"). Claims 31-36 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

The Applicant has amended the claims to include the allowable subject matter suggested by the Final Office Action. Specifically, independent claim 30 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 31, which is now cancelled. Dependent claim 32 has also been amended to depend from claim 30 instead of claim 31. Claims 37 through 41, which were previously withdrawn from consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b) as being drawn to a non-elected species, are now cancelled.

The Applicant has further amended claim 30 to better clarify the claim by including minor punctuation changes. Specifically, the Applicant has added a colon after the phrase "wherein the at least one collecting channel is connected to one of" and a semi-colon has been added after each of the phrases "each intake pipe of the cylinder head" and "each intake pipe of the cylinder head."

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CONCLUSION

There being no other objections to or rejections of the claims, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 30-36 may be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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